

# The Southeast News

VOLUME XII, NUMBER 10

AUGUST 1964

## Annual Fall Meetings Scheduled For October

The time of the annual fall meetings of the associations and conferences of the Southeast Convention is almost at hand.

According to the information now available in the convention office the following is the schedule of time and place for each of the meetings.

### South Alabama-N. W. Florida

The South Alabama-Northwest Florida Association will meet on Saturday and Sunday, October 3-4, at the First Congregational Christian Church, Andalusia, Alabama. Registration is at 2 p. m. on Saturday and the sessions begin at 2:30. Rev. E. H. Henby is moderator.

### Central Alabama

The Central Alabama Association will meet on Monday, October 5, at the East Tallassee, Alabama Congregational Christian Church. The meeting will begin at 3:30 p. m. Rev. Andrew Nelson is the moderator.

### North Alabama

The North Alabama Association will meet on Tuesday, October 6, at the Garden City, Alabama, Congregational Christian Church. The sessions will begin at 9:30 a. m. Rev. Homer Barnes is the moderator.

### Kentucky - Tennessee

The Kentucky-Tennessee Conference will meet on Saturday and Sunday, October 10-11, at the Oak Ridge Community Church, Oak Ridge, Tenn. The sessions will begin at 1 p. m. EST. Mr. G. Everett Farmer is the moderator.

### East Alabama Association

The East Alabama Association will meet on Wednesday and Thursday, October 14 and 15.

The meeting on Wednesday will be held at the Elder Church, Dadeville, Ala., beginning at 10:00 a. m. CST.

The meeting on Thursday will be held at the Lanett Congregational Christian Church beginning at 10 a. m. EST.

Rev. George W. Stowe is the moder-

## Rev. Charles Myers Joins College Staff

Rev. Charles Myers of 12 Cranston Road, Winchester, Mass., has been appointed SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT of Southern Union College, according to an announcement today by President Walter A. Graham.

Mr. Myers is a native of Pennsylvania, received a Bachelor of Science degree in economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, attended Garrett Theological Seminary and received a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York. He has also done graduate work at Teacher's College of Columbia University.

Mr. Myers has had a varied experience both in business and church work, having served in local churches, a state group, and also in nation-wide denominational work. For two years he was the assistant to the president of Berea College in Kentucky.

Mr. Myers will represent the Wadley college in the six New England states, calling upon prospective students as well as present and possible contributors. Mr. Myers will continue to live in Winchester, Mass., but will be available to ministers, churches, and their members in all of the New England states.

In making the announcement of this appointment President Graham stated that he had known Mr. Myers for many years and felt the college was honored to have Mr. Myers associated with it. Dr. Graham will continue to make periodic visits to the East but expressed his sincere joy in having Mr. Myers as a permanent representative of Southern Union College.

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### Georgia-South Carolina Conference

The Georgia-South Carolina Conference will meet on Friday and Saturday, October 16-17, at Central Congregational Church, Atlanta, Ga. Registration begins at 1 p. m. and the sessions

## HERE AND THERE NEWS IN BRIEF

The Rev. David Herbert Long, pastor of Salem United Church, Norwood, Ohio, conducted the annual revival services at New Hope Church, Clio, Ala., the week of July 12-17. Mr. Long is the son of the pastor of the church, Rev. N. A. Long.

\* \* \* \*

Visiting minister for the revival services at the Oak Grove Congregational Christian Church, Pine Mountain, Ga., was the Rev. Walter W. Hall of Lanett, Alabama. Rev. W. M. McCullars is the pastor.

\* \* \* \*

Rev. Andrew Nelson, moderator of the Central Alabama Association, conducted the revival services at the Union Congregational Christian Church, Mountain Creek, Ala., the week of July 26. Rev. G. Graham Norris is the pastor.

\* \* \* \*

During the month of August Supt. James H. Lightbourne Jr. preached at the annual Homecoming Services at New Hope, Clio; Oak Grove, Pine Mountain; and Union, Mountain Creek.

\* \* \* \*

Rev. Albert Henry, minister of Pilgrim Church, Birmingham, Ala., attended a special conference for ministers and the laity at Deering, New Hampshire, in the month of July.

\* \* \* \*

Rev. Frederick A. Meyer, Central Church, Atlanta, attended a special week for ministers at Union Theological Seminary, New York, the week of July 19th.

\* \* \* \*

Send your church news to The Southeast News. Others like to read about what you are doing.

begin at 2 p. m. Rev. Frederick A. Meyer is the moderator.

All of the churches should make plans to be represented by delegates and every minister should plan to attend the meeting in their area.

# United Church Offers Young People Many Fields Of Service

Hundreds of capable young people will be needed for the ministry of the United Church of Christ as it becomes more involved in a "life and death" struggle with the forces of evil, poverty, and disease at home and abroad.

The Rev. Dr. Ben Mohr Herbst, president of the United Church, said the church could not afford to handicap itself with less than adequate leaders. "The battle lines are drawn too tightly," he said. "The consequences are too important for us to go into this struggle, a life and death struggle, with any less than the most-capable of our young men and women."

Within the United Church family—local churches, associations, conferences, national boards and agencies—and in interdenominational programs, there is an increasing variety of vocations for lay people as well as for the clergy. For the clergy there is an increasing number of ministries calling for specialized interests and skills.

The United Church is mapping out a campaign to invade the inner-city and to expand its services to broken families, deprived youth, the unemployed, the aging and the "captives of persistent poverty," according to the Rev. Dr. Purd E. Deitz, general secretary of the Division of Church Extension in the Board for Homeland Ministries.

For example, the Board will participate in an interdenominational night ministry in San Francisco which would provide the services of an ordained minister to the lonely and desperate not reached by the day-time clergy. Another special ministry is being extended to migrant workers who are trying to settle down in communities which are virtually rural slums.

"There is a great need for leaders from minority groups who understand the revolutionary character of racial and cultural trends and can clearly lead in the Christian way of struggle and change as well as reconciliation," Dr. Deitz said.

In January, the Board's Division of Higher Education and AMA announced plans to join three other Protestant denominations in setting up a united ministry on 450 college campuses throughout the country. Approximately 80 United Church ministers are now taking part in the program.

According to the Rev. Hartland H. Helmich, national secretary for the

campus ministry, this ministry calls for "alert and creative-minded persons, not necessarily young in age, who can work with students and faculty alike."

The institutional chaplaincy is one of the most vital specialized ministries, according to the Rev. Dr. Harold H. Wilke, director of the Council for Church and Ministry. The prison or hospital chaplain is a bridge between the individual and rehabilitation into the community. He must be capable of remaining sensitive to suffering, while resisting the extreme demands that will be made on him by persons under great stress.

There are now 57 United Church ministers serving as chaplains in hospitals, both general and specialized, and fourteen in penal institutions and training schools. One hundred and fourteen ministers are serving in the different branches of the armed forces as military chaplains.

The field of Christian Social Action exemplifies the need of the church for people who are aware of the social revolution taking place today and who are specially trained for it.

The Council for Christian Social Action has recently investigated reports of racial violence in Southern communities, urged federal legislation regulating child labor and requiring "new leader" registration for the protection of migrant workers. It has requested the establishment of a department of urban affairs and housing and has communicated with the President on nuclear testing in the atmosphere. The Council has also issued statements on capital punishment, tax exemptions for churches and minimum wage protection.

"As the church accepts greater responsibility for the state of our society, more opportunities will be open for young people within the ministry where they will be able to relate themselves to critical issues of today," according to the Rev. Dr. S. Garry Oniki, a member of the Council staff and executive coordinator of the committee for Racial Justice Now.

There are approximately 700 positions in the Board for Homeland Ministries' Division of Christian Education. The Rev. Dr. Edward A. Powers, general secretary of the division, predicts an increase in the demand for young men and women in his division. "In a time of increasing specialization," he

said, "experts in Christian education will be increasingly valuable . . . One especially important need will be for well-trained men and women of minority groups."

Directors and ministers of Christian education in local churches work in adult education, supervise church schools and week-day Christian education opportunities, train teachers and other educational leaders, prepare young people for church membership, direct youth activities and work in family life education.

Church-related colleges and seminaries require professors of Christian education, and specialists in the field are needed to develop programs and materials at the division's national headquarters in Philadelphia.

The United Church is related to 31 colleges, 14 schools of theology and two academies that are primarily preparatory schools. These institutions have openings for ordained ministers as instructors of Bible, philosophy, religion and the history of education. The intellectual atmosphere of the independent church-related college will have a special appeal to teachers in other disciplines who wish to relate their Christian faith to their teaching, according to the Rev. Dr. Wesley A. Hotchkiss, general secretary for Higher Education.

Young people of the Southeast Convention who are interested in learning more about these opportunities for service as they are involved in choosing their life work are invited and encouraged to write for additional information to the Southeast Convention office (673 Piedmont Avenue, N. E., Atlanta 8, Georgia.)

Another article, actually the second section of this article, will appear in the September issue of The Southeast News. Information concerning other fields of service within the United Church will be given. It is hoped the articles will be useful to young people, counselors and ministers of the convention.

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# James Franklin Hadden - Founder Of Poplar Arbor Church

Poplar Arbor Church, the only church in Colquitt County of the faith of the Puritans at Plymouth Rock, owes its founding to one who like his Puritan predecessors was a fiery preacher of the gospel, a firm believer in salvation and the brotherhood of man. The Reverend James Franklin Hadden of Doerun was the Man of God who literally preached and loved this church into being.

James Franklin Hadden's life is a story of salvation, love and extreme devotion to the Kingdom of God. Born December 5, 1867, about twelve miles south of Shellman, Georgia, in Randolph County, he was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John T. Hadden. He grew up in Reconstruction years following the War Between the States, feeling the consequences of the poverty brought on by the late war and the perennial "one-crop" system which had the South enslaved. He did not have much schooling, but he studied the Bible and read widely. All of his long life he studied the Holy Scriptures, and a vivid memory of those who knew him best is that of seeing him reading and studying his Bible as he sat on the front porch of his home resting after the noon meal each day.

As a young man Mr. Hadden entered the ministry of the Freewill Baptist Church to which his family belonged. He began serving churches in Randolph County. The Freewill preacher grown into manhood married Miss Jessie Leila Brown, born also in Randolph County, April 11, 1875, who had been mother and provider for the younger brothers and sisters in her family after the early death of her parents.

The Reverend Mr. Hadden and his wife, farming and serving churches, continued living in Randolph County where two sons were born to them. Roy L. Hadden was born December 12, 1896, and Troy Franklin Hadden, April 18, 1898. Later a daughter was born to them, Sallie Tom Hadden (now Mrs. W. H. Westberry of Doerun) on May 5, 1904.

Just before the turn of the century

Mr. Hadden, together with Mr. I. W. Quick, a Randolph County neighbor, made a prospecting trip to Colquitt County. They came to see the land and to learn firsthand if the reports concerning this thriving area were true. It was still a pioneer-type area and they came with the prospect of settling here. Being favorably impressed they returned later with their families and settled on adjoining farms on the Doerun - Sale City Road. On Christmas Day, 1899, one week before the dawn of the Twentieth Century, the Haddens settled in a one-room log house about three miles out of Doerun. This move, together with the new century, was to bring a great change to the devoted Freewill Baptist minister.

In the course of his pastoral duties in churches in this area Mr. Hadden met and became a friend of a Reverend Mr. Stewart who was serving as a field man in the Congregational Church and at that time was involved with duties at Hartsfield. Learning from Mr. Stewart of the doctrines and faith of the Congregational Church, Mr. Hadden left the church of his youth and heritage and became a minister of the Congregational Church. Early in the Twentieth Century he began organizing Sunday schools, holding protracted meetings and devoting his time to leading people to God. He held a Sunday school at Goings' Schoolhouse and later conducted a protracted meeting there which resulted in the founding of New Light Congregational Church in Worth County.

Not content to leave his mark upon the world with the founding of only one church, he accepted an invitation to preach in the community now known as Poplar Arbor. The meeting place was Phillips' Schoolhouse. Finally the Congregationalists ceased to use the schoolhouse, meeting instead beneath an arbor they constructed to the west of the afore-mentioned log house.

The arbor was set up in the area northeast of the crossroads, some little distance from the present location of the church. This arbor was built on land belonging to Lewis Walters.

Beneath the arbor in July, 1909, Mr. Hadden and the Congregational following held a protracted meeting. In this meeting a Congregational church was formed with seven charter members.

At its organizational meeting the

church called Mr. Hadden as the first pastor.

Before the church building was ready for occupancy in the spring of 1910, Mr. Hadden had resigned the pastorate of the church. However, he always maintained a keen and spirited interest in New Light and Poplar Arbor Churches.

At Poplar Arbor, Sunday school was held in the afternoons for the children and young people. Preaching services were held both Saturday and Sunday one weekend each month. As an itinerant pastor he did not come alone to his churches. His devoted wife and three children accompanied Mr. Hadden in his parish rounds. Her unselfish devotion to her husband's work endeared Mrs. Hadden to all of the parishioners her husband served.

In 1912 the Haddens moved from the farm they had settled at the turn of the century and took up residence in Doerun where Mrs. Hadden continues to live to this day. Mr. Hadden continued to farm, doing much of the work himself until he was eighty-one years of age.

He continued to attend services at New Light and Poplar Arbor as long as his health permitted. He was a member at New Light, and records at Poplar Arbor list him as a member also, but whether he was truly a member at both churches does not matter. They were both his spiritual children and he was equally devoted to both churches he had founded.

At noon, February 14, 1950, he passed away at his home in Doerun after an illness of six months. His wife and three children survived him. His funeral was held at New Light with Rev. W. C. Carpenter officiating. That which was mortal of James Franklin Hadden was carried to the cemetery at Doerun for burial. But a part of the immortality of this great old man of God is with us yet, the churches he founded in the Congregational faith. Today they continue their noble tradition of the past, monuments to God and perpetual testimonies of the consecrated life of James Franklin Hadden.

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#### STAFF

Rev. Jas. H. Lightbourne, Jr. Editor

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### Superintendent's Corner

The legislation popularly known as the "Civil Rights Bill" (Public Law 88352, 88th Congress, H. R. 7152, July 2, 1964) has passed both houses of Congress and has been signed into law by the president of the United States. It now is the law of the land.

Responsible Christians and citizens all over the nation by word and example should urge compliance with the law. It is heartening that all over the South church and political leaders are calling upon the people to accept and comply with the measures of the bill now that it has become the law of the land.

It is to be expected that some citizens sincerely doubt the constitutionality of the law. There are peaceful and orderly ways for the constitutionality of the law to be tested. As a matter of fact, it is already in the federal courts as a result of two cases in Atlanta, Georgia.

Those persons in the South, or anywhere in the nation, who urge defiance of the law do not serve the best interests of our nation or the South. We do not wish and we do not have to have riots and violence as a result of the passage and application of this law.

As Christians we have a special responsibility. We believe that all people are creatures of God, created in His image. We believe that all of the people in this land and in the world can live together in peace and harmony in accordance with the will of God.

We believe in the power of Christian love. Christians and the churches should be the instruments of the love God has shown for us in Jesus Christ.

Our nation and our world need the witness of our Christian faith and love today perhaps as never before. Let us be true to our high calling.

## O. C. W. M. Receipts January-June 1964

### ALABAMA

Alexander City, Antioch	0
Alexander City, Hunt	0
Andalusia, Antioch	0
Andalusia, Coldwater	0
Andalusia, First	0
Andalusia, New Home	0
Arley, Robertsons Ch.	10.
Ashland, Bethel	0
Birmingham, Pilgrim	320.*
Brantley, Indian Creek	0
Brantley, Liberty	0
Caddo, First	0
Clio, New Hope	0
Dadeville, Elder	65.
East Tallassee	225.
Eclectic, Watson's Chapel	0
Five Points, State Line	0
Garden City	100.
Hackleburg, Fairview	0
Haleyville, Union Grove	36.
Hanceville, Mt. Grove	0
Headland, Blackwood	134.*
Houston, Liberty Hill	0
Huntsville, United	492.*
LaFayette, Pleas. Grove	0
Lanett, C. C.	1,759.
Lanett, Huguley	0
Langdale, C. C.	990.
Lineville, New Harmony	0
Midland City, Chr. Hill	0
Montgomery, United	225.
Moulton, Jones Chapel	0
Mt. Creek, Union	0
Phenix City, First	0
Phenix City, Russell Woods	20.
Pisgah	10.
Roanoke, Antioch	60.
Roanoke, Bethany	0
Roanoke, First	0
Roanoke, Forest Home	0
Roanoke, Lowell	133.
Roanoke, Mt. Zion	0
Roanoke, New Hope	0
Roanoke, Rock Springs	0
Roanoke, Rock Stand	0
Seman, Balm of Gilead	0
Seman, Community	0
Shawmut, Todd	75.
Steele, Mt. Lebanon	0
Tallassee, Mt. Olive	30.
Town Creek, Old Liberty	0
Wadley, Beulah	0
Wadley, Christian	230.*
Wadley, Corinth	0
Wedowee, Caver's Grove	0
Wedowee, Noon Day	0

### FLORIDA

Baker, Good Hope	0
Baker, Pyron's Chapel	0
Bonifay, New Effort	30.
Crestview, Dorcas	0

### GEORGIA

Ambrose, Christian	0
Atlanta, Center	100.
Atlanta, Central	3,404.*
Barnesville, Fredonia	250.*
Baxley, Friendship	0
Bowman, Liberty	0
Braselton, Macedonia	0
Bristol, Antioch	0
Buford, Duncan's Creek	0
Columbus, First	255.
Columbus, United	0
Crest, Hebron	0
Demorest, Federated	200.*
Doerun, New Light	0
Doerun, Poplar Arbor	0
Douglas, First	0
Enigma, Christian	0
Gaillard, Pleasant Hill	0
Hampton, County Line	0
LaGrange, Hillside	0
LaGrange, United	464.
Meansville, First	0
Meansville, Liberty	0
Pearson, Union Hill	0
Pine Mt., Oak Grove	315.*
Richland, First	0
Richland, Prov. Chapel	0
Tifton, First	0
Tifton, Vanceville	0
Waycross, Williams Chapel	80.
West Point, Bethel	0
Woodbury, Jones Chapel	0

### KENTUCKY

Evarts, First	470.
Stearns, Community	0

### SOUTH CAROLINA

Charleston, Circular	510.
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### TENNESSEE

Chattanooga, Pilgrim	2,339.*
Crossville, First	324.*
Daisy, First	0
Deer Lodge	46.*
Glen Mary	36.*
Knoxville, First	208.
Nashville, Brookmeade	200.
Pleasant Hill, Community	100.*
Robbins, Barton Chapel	9.*
Soddy, First	0

OTHER, CHURCH UNDESIGNATED	60.
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TOTAL	14,314.
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\*Includes designated gifts, i. e. OGH, SOS, etc.

Rev. and Mrs. Arnold Slater, Chattanooga, Tenn., attended the Ministers' Family Conference at Estes Park, Colorado, the last week in July. They also visited their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Odum, in Ft. Collins, Colorado.

## Christian Education Associates Meeting

A dozen C. E. A.'s (Christian Education Associates) of the Southeast Area met for a thrilling three-day workshop July 8-10 at the United Church of Huntsville. The over-all theme of the meeting was "Responding to God's Love," the theme of the second year United Church Curriculum. The group explored this subject in depth at all age levels and on a very personal level in Bible Study based upon Exodus 19 and 24:1-11, and several passages from Paul's letters comparing the Old and New Covenant. These periods of enrichment were times of personal commitment and the means of molding the group into a true "Christian community" which grew more meaningful as the three days sped by.

The leadership for our workshop was made up of two members of the Division of Christian Education staff. Leading our study and involvement in the second year United Church Curriculum was Miss Gladys Varner, from Birmingham, Alabama, who is serving on the national staff during this summer. The Rev. Betty Stone, editor of *Children's Religion*, led us in a discussion on "The Climate of Christian Education in Our Churches." Miss Stone, who writes the Leadership Education Seminars in the *Church School Worker*, was most helpful as we explored together new ventures in leadership education through Worker's Conferences, study groups, and other related activities. Her outline for recruitment of Christian Education personnel in a local church was invaluable.

The high point of our three days together was a Hootenanny on Thursday evening in which over forty persons responded to God's love through music and meditation. Betty and Gladys wove folk songs and spirituals into an intriguing story of man's response to God's love through the ages, beginning with creation and including the call of Abraham, the leadership of Moses and the prophets, the coming of Jesus Christ, the birth of the church and its pilgrimage unto this present day. The music was led by Mrs. J. B. Wright, from Savannah, and Mr. and Mrs.

## Young People Invited To Write To Senator

Few persons know the agonizing problems of youth today better than the youth themselves. And few can think as freshly as those youth whose minds and personalities are not yet clouded by personal prejudices, disappointing failures, and stifling traditions. Youth are the victims of much of our nation's problems. Yet youth are our nation's biggest resource for the future. And Senator Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island is one national leader who feels that bold and concerted action needs to be taken on the problems and challenges of youth. He believes that youth can have something important to say—whether it be about their own problems, about the obstacles they face, or about proposed solutions to our country's problems. And so Senator Pell is proposing a nation-wide "Dialogue with Youth." As part of this dialogue, Senator Pell's office has personally invited YOUTH magazine to encourage its teen-age readers to write to the Senator. Answer such questions as: What are your most important problems? What are the most frustrating obstacles you face in achieving even the simplest of goals in life? What can the government do to help its youth participate more meaningfully in the life of the nation?

Every effort will be made so that other legislators will be made aware of the voice of our nation's youth. Send your letters to: Senator Claiborne Pell, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C., 20510.

Arnold Alderman, Huntsville's United Church folk singers—with the guitar. The powerful song "We Shall Overcome" led to a spontaneous formation of a handclasped friendship circle as the racially inclusive group raised glad voices in an affirmation of faith in God's love which overcame the world.

C. E. A.'s attending the workshop were entertained in the homes of United Church families and the meals were provided by some of the women of the church. Those who were a part of this Christian fellowship will not soon forget the experience. It will be for all of us a source of spiritual strength as we seek to lead others in their response to God's wonderful and redeeming love.

Shirley Berry, Chairman  
Leadership Education

## Our Christian World Mission Helps Simon

It was a miracle that Simon ever reached the hospital, for he had been walking for two days and was so tired and sick that he scarcely knew where he was. Simon was suffering from advanced pellagra, a vitamin B deficiency disease. His skin was hard and dry, and he looked like skin and bones. For several days he had to be tied by cloths to his bed so that he would not wander away, but later his mind became clear and he was able to cooperate well. It took Simon two months to gain back his strength.

But when the time came for Simon to return home he did not want to go. He had learned about Jesus at the hospital at Mt. Silinda, and he had heard there was a school there. Simon wanted to go to school. He set out to find work: chopping wood, caring for a garden, hauling water, and doing other odd jobs to earn his fees. Then at night he studied. A little later he was able to attend the day school. Simon, who is now strong and healthy, is a familiar figure at Mt. Silinda Mission as he is seen going to and from school carrying his briefcase.

Some day Simon will go home to stay. When he does he will be able to read and to write, he will know how to do certain skills he learned at the mission, he will be strong and sturdy, and he will be able and anxious to tell his friends of how he became well and learned new things at Mt. Silinda Mission.

Simon is only one of many Africans whose lives have been changed by the Mt. Silinda Mission. The Hospital, built for 86 patients, cares often for over 200 patients daily, and doctors and nurses make frequent visits to clinics in outlying areas. Simon is one of over 10,000 school children taught in the mission school system, and one of thousands of Sunday worshippers who thank God for the healing ministry. His followers have carried around the world, to the end of the earth.

Dr. J. Franklin Donaldson is co-director of the medical work of the Rhodesia Mission.

Dr. and Mrs. Donaldson with their three children have been home on furlough and will be returning soon to Mt. Silinda.

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*We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
and our Father, and to his deeds we testify:*

*He calls the worlds into being,  
creates man in his own image  
And sets before him the ways of life and death.*

*He seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.*

*He judges men and nations by his righteous will  
declared through prophets and apostles.*

*In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord,  
he has come to us  
and shared our common lot,  
conquering sin and death  
and reconciling the world to himself.*

*He bestows upon us his Holy Spirit,  
creating and renewing the Church of Jesus Christ,  
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.*

*He calls us into his Church  
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,  
to be his servants in the service of men,  
to proclaim the gospel to all the world  
and resist the powers of evil,  
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,  
to join him in his passion and victory.*

*He promises to all who trust him  
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,  
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,  
his presence in trial and rejoicing,  
and eternal life in his kingdom which has no end.*

*Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto him. Amen.*

Approved by the Second General Synod of the United Church of Christ held in Oberlin, Ohio, July 5-9, 1959, and submitted to the Synods, Conferences, Associations and Churches for their approval and use. The General Synod encourages the use of the Statement of Faith in congregational worship, in private devotions and for purposes of study.